



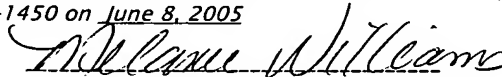
IFW  
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Attorney Docket No. MP/157

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant : Palacios et al.  
Appl. No. : 10/026,108  
Filed : 12/20/2001  
Title : Apparatus and Method For  
Applying Reinforcement Material  
To A Surgical Stapler

*I hereby certify that this correspondence is being  
deposited with the United States Postal Service as first  
class mail in an envelope addressed to: Box Issue Fee,  
Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA  
22313-1450 on June 8, 2005*

  
Melanee Williams

Group Art Unit : 3731  
Examiner : Woo, Julian W.

Mail Stop Issue Fee  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

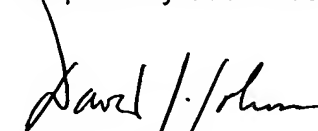
**LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL**

Dear Sir:

In response to the Notice of Allowance and Issue Fee Due mailed April 1, 2005,  
applicant herewith submits:

1. Replacement Drawings 1-21 (25 sheets).

Respectfully Submitted,

  
David J. Johns  
Reg. No. 31,527  
W. L. Gore & Associates, Inc.  
551 Paper Mill Road  
P.O. Box 9206  
Newark, DE 19714-9206  
(928) 864-4800

Date: 6/8/05